

## CHAPTER

## 8

## SECTION 2

## Section Summary

## REVOLUTIONS OF 1830 AND 1848

When Louis XVIII died in 1824, Charles X inherited the French throne. In 1830, Charles suspended the legislature, limited the right to vote, and restricted the press. Angry citizens, led by liberals and **radicals**, rebelled and soon controlled Paris. Charles X abdicated. Radicals hoped to set up a republic, but liberals insisted on a constitutional monarchy. **Louis Philippe** was chosen king. As the “citizen king,” Louis favored the bourgeoisie, or middle class, over the workers.

The Paris revolts inspired uprisings elsewhere in Europe. Most failed, but the revolutions frightened rulers and encouraged reforms. One notable success was in Belgium, which achieved its independence from Holland in 1831. Nationalists also revolted in Poland in 1830, but they failed to win widespread support. Russian forces crushed the rebels.

In the 1840s, discontent began to grow again in France. Radicals, socialists, and liberals denounced Louis Philippe’s government. Discontent was heightened by a **recession**. People lost their jobs, and poor harvests caused bread prices to rise. When the government tried to silence critics, angry crowds took to the streets in February 1848. The turmoil spread, and Louis Philippe abdicated. A group of liberals, radicals, and socialists proclaimed the Second Republic. By June, the upper and middle classes had won control of the government. Workers again took to the streets of Paris. At least 1,500 people were killed before the government crushed the rebellion. By the end of 1848, the National Assembly issued a constitution for the Second Republic, giving the right to vote to all adult men. When the election for president was held, Louis Napoleon, the nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte, won. However, by 1852 he had proclaimed himself Emperor **Napoleon III**. This ended the Second Republic.

The revolts in Paris in 1848 again led to revolutions across Europe, especially in the Austrian empire. Revolts broke out in Vienna, and Metternich resigned. In Budapest, Hungarian nationalists led by **Louis Kossuth** demanded an independent government. In Prague, the Czechs made similar demands. The Italian states also revolted, and the German states demanded national unity. While the rebellions had some short-term success, most of them had failed by 1850.

## Review Questions

1. What caused the rebellion in France in 1830?

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2. In what parts of Europe did revolts take place following the Paris revolts of 1848?

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## READING CHECK

What brought the Second Republic to an end?

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## VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *denounced* mean in the underlined sentence? Reread the sentences before and after the underlined sentence. Were the French people happy or unhappy with Louis Philippe’s government? Note that the government “tried to silence critics.” Use these context clues to help you understand the meaning of *denounce*.

## READING SKILL

**Identify Main Ideas** What is the main idea of the last paragraph in the Summary?

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